

File 61

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

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TOPIC Military Information from the Letzling HeathEVALUATION See belowPLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

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DATE OF CONTENT 8 to 23 May 1950DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]DATE PREPARED 22 June 1950REFERENCES [REDACTED]

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]REMARKS Return to CIA Library

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1. No troops or materiel were observed arriving at the Letzling Heath troop training grounds between 8 and 23 May 1950.

[REDACTED] the camp in the woods was occupied for the first time by a whole division, allegedly a tank division from the Berlin area, possibly from Zossen or Wuensdorf. The camp was not occupied to the strength that it was in 1949. More units were due to arrive. A German workman who had access to only one section of the camp observed 160 parked tanks. Motor vehicles were stored in newly constructed garages.* About 200 German workers were employed in the construction of additional camp buildings, water mains and electrical circuits. The building of the water tower was planned.

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2. At Hillersleben barracks, gate guards wore black-bordered red epaulets. No training activity or motor vehicles were observed on 19 and 20 May 1950. Local residents said that the bulk of the units stationed in the barracks had gone to the troop training grounds. **

3. At Camps Planken and Born, construction work was being done on camp buildings and shed roofs. Twenty-five tanks and fifteen armored scout cars were stored under one shed roof. A railroad employee said that about forty tanks, thirty SP guns and thirty-five guns of various calibers were detained in Haldensleben between early April and 20 May 1950.

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

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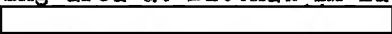
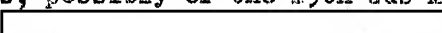
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*  Comment. Confirms numerous reports of the transfer of the entire 19th Gds Mecz Div to the Letzling Heath between 15 and 30 April 1950.

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**  Comment. The information confirms the transfer of the Hillersleben ? No Engr Bn of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div. According to previous reports this transfer was to the engineer training area at Bittkau in late April 1950. 

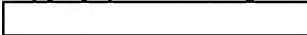
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 The artillery and supply units, possibly of the 19th Gds Mecz Div, which,  moved into the Hillersleben barracks on 21 April 1950, presumably stayed there only temporarily.

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